CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

5   1.   A method of verifying an incremental change
to an integrated circuit design comprising steps of:
          (a) receiving as input an integrated circuit design
database;
          (b) receiving as input an engineering change order;
10   (c) identifying and marking objects in the
integrated circuit design database to indicate a current
state of the integrated circuit design database;
          (d) applying the engineering change order to the
integrated circuit design database;
15.   (e) analyzing the integrated circuit design database
to generate a list of incremental changes to the
integrated circuit design database resulting from the
engineering change order;
          (f) identifying and marking objects in the
20   integrated circuit design database included in the list
of incremental changes to distinguish objects in the
integrated circuit design database that were changed from
the current state; and
          (g) streaming out the integrated circuit design
25   database.

          2.   The method of Claim 1 wherein step (g)
comprises translating the integrated circuit design
database to a file in generic data stream format.

3.   The method of Claim 2 further comprising a step of applying a special rule deck to validate the marked integrated circuit design database wherein the

5   special rule deck includes only design checks and rules applicable to the objects that were changed from the current state.

4.   The method of Claim 3 further comprising a

10   step of identifying a design rule violation in the objects that were changed from the current state.

5.   The method of Claim 4 further comprising a step of modifying the integrated circuit design database

15   to correct the design rule violation.

6.   A computer program product for verifying an incremental change to an integrated circuit design that includes:

20   a medium for embodying a computer program for input to a computer; and

a computer program embodied in the medium for causing the computer to perform steps of:

(a) receiving as input an integrated circuit design

25   database;

(b) receiving as input an engineering change order;

(c) identifying and marking objects in the integrated circuit design database to indicate a current state of the integrated circuit design database;

(d) applying the engineering change order to the integrated circuit design database;

(e) analyzing the integrated circuit design database to generate a list of incremental changes to the integrated circuit design database resulting from the engineering change order;

(f) identifying and marking objects in the integrated circuit design database included in the list of incremental changes to distinguish objects in the integrated circuit design database that were changed from the current state; and

(g) streaming out the integrated circuit design database.

7. The computer program product of Claim 6 wherein step (g) comprises translating the integrated circuit design database to a file in generic data stream format.

8. The computer program product of Claim 7 further comprising a step of applying a special rule deck to validate the marked integrated circuit design database wherein the special rule deck includes only design checks and rules applicable to the objects that were changed from the current state.

9. The computer program product of Claim 8 further comprising a step of identifying a design rule

violation in the objects that were changed from the current state.

10. The computer program product of Claim 9 further comprising a step of modifying the integrated circuit design database to correct the design rule violation.

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EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV 410722114 US